

RECOGNIZING COACH REX
BERRYMAN

HON. TRAVIS W. CHILDERS

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 20, 2010

Mr. CHILDERS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize a special Mississippian, Coach Rex Berryman of Mooreville, Mississippi.

Coach Berryman has served as an educator and community leader at Mooreville High School for thirty-eight years. In 2004, he was inducted into the Mississippi Associates of Coaches Hall of Fame for his achievements. Throughout his career he has championed over 2,100 victories in all sports. Coach Berryman has led the Mooreville Troopers to win thirteen State Championships, including basketball, slow-pitch softball, and baseball.

I applaud Coach Rex Berryman's achievements and I know he will continue to support the Mooreville Troopers and victoriously represent Mississippi's First District. I urge my colleagues to join me in recognizing Coach Rex Berryman for his commitment and years of service mentoring young students in Mississippi.

CELEBRATION OF MRS. MATTIE
LEE TOMLIN'S 80TH BIRTHDAY

HON. DAVID SCOTT

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 20, 2010

Mr. SCOTT of Georgia. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Mrs. Mattie Lee Tomlin on the occasion of her 80th birthday and to commend her on 46 years of dedicated service as a school bus driver.

While serving our nation's public school system, Mrs. Tomlin was responsible for providing a safe environment for her students. Each school day for over 40 years, her promptness and dependability allowed her to transport school children from home to school. Her commitment made it possible for countless children to attend public school.

Mrs. Tomlin was born on June 23rd, 1930 in Jeffersonville, Georgia. After graduating from the Twiggs County School System, she served as a public school bus driver for six years. After relocating to Jackson, Michigan, she continued serving her community for a further 40 years. Throughout her years of enthusiastic support to our nation's school children, she has been widely recognized for her punctuality and commitment to safety.

Even in her retirement Mrs. Tomlin has continued her commitment to public service. For the past four years, she has volunteered her time at the Charlie Griswold Senior Center, where she currently serves as a VIP volunteer.

Madam Speaker, distinguished colleagues, it is with great pride that I recognize Mrs. Mattie Lee Tomlin for her years of service to our nation's school children. I invite my colleagues to join me in honoring this exceptional woman on her 80th birthday.

IN REMEMBRANCE OF DEBORAH
VERNICE REYNOLDS-HAZEN OF
FORT WORTH, TEXAS

HON. MICHAEL C. BURGESS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 20, 2010

Mr. BURGESS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to remember Deborah Vernice Reynolds-Hazen of Fort Worth, Texas.

Debbie danced her way into the lives of her parents, Alverta and Clarence Reynolds on January 12, 1953 in Fort Worth, Texas. She graduated from Our Mother of Mercy Catholic School, Nolan Catholic High School, and Paul Quinn College. Before her college graduation, she attended Tarrant County Junior College, where she was crowned Miss TCJC, and she attended Texas Wesleyan College.

Debbie was one of the first Black finalists for the Miss Texas pageant and one of the first Black models for the Kim Dawson modeling agency. In her work in the Water Quality Protection Division of the Environmental Protection Agency, she served as both a water specialist and the Texas Tribal Outreach Education Coordinator. Debbie also worked for the Corps of Engineers.

Debbie loved Fort Worth and she dedicated her life to helping others through her very active community involvement. Mrs. Reynolds-Hazen was the first African-American chair of the Tarrant County Historical Commission. She also served on the Kupferle Board of the Harris Methodist Hospital system, as well as the boards of the Tarrant County Black Historical and Genealogical Society, the Arlington Landmarks Commission, Historic Preservation Council for Tarrant County and Historic Fort Worth.

Debbie was a Fort Worth Assembly debutante and she continued her involvement with the distinguished organization as a general member and as a member of the Executive Board. She was a member of the Fort Worth chapter of the Links. She was a graduate of Leadership Fort Worth and was involved in her church of 57 years, the historic Our Mother of Mercy Catholic Church in Fort Worth's beautiful South Side. It was there that she was a member of St. Anne's Altar Society and had sung with the first OMM Gospel Choir.

Always the life of anyone's party, Debbie was an enthusiastic and great dancer. In her lifetime, she had won many dance contests. It was not uncommon for her to make any floor her dancing arena. Her passion for dancing was infectious. She would pull people on the dance floor and made everyone want to dance with her, including those who were the most shy.

Debbie never met a stranger. She had an unparalleled flair about her. She could sashay into any crowd of people she didn't know and would walk away knowing the majority of them or the majority of people would walk away knowing who Debbie was.

This social butterfly was a very well-rounded person. An avid supporter of visual and performing arts, Debbie was a patron of museums and theatre, she travelled around the world, won many trivia contests, and played classical piano. She even recorded an album showcasing her musical talent.

She is survived by her beloved and devoted husband of 15 years, Robert J. Hazen, step-

daughters Robin Renee Black, UVanna Miller, brother, Clarence Reynolds, Jr., nieces, Judith M. Bell, Shelly Bell, and Jessica Reynolds, cousin (and unofficial younger sister), Glenda Batts Williams and uncles Roscoe Marion Means, Marshall Batts, and Melvin Buckner, and a whole host of loving relatives and dear friends.

Debbie was preceded in death by her parents, Alverta and Clarence, by her sister, Clarece, sister-in-law, Alma, and stepson Wes Hazen. She danced her way back into these beloved relatives' lives on May 14, 2010.

A Wake will be held in Debbie's memory on Friday, May 21, 2010, at 7:00 p.m. at Our Mother of Mercy Catholic Church at 1001 Terrell Avenue, in Fort Worth, Texas. The funeral Mass will be held at Our Mother of Mercy Catholic Church on Saturday, May 22, 2010, at 1:00 p.m. The family asks that in lieu of flowers, a gift to the National Kidney Foundation be made in Mrs. Reynolds-Hazen's memory.

Madam Speaker, today I rise in remembrance of the very talented, enthusiastic, dedicated and selfless Deborah Vernice Reynolds-Hazen. She has had a profound effect on many, and will be dearly missed.

TRIBUTE TO DREW KELLY

HON. TOM LATHAM

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 20, 2010

Mr. LATHAM. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate and recognize Coach Drew Kelly of Ames, Iowa, for his induction into the Iowa High School Athletic Association (IHSAA) Wrestling Hall of Fame.

Drew has one of the most storied and impeccable high school wrestling careers the state of Iowa has ever seen. He is one of the 65 Iowa high school wrestlers of all time to win three career state championships, which he did from 1997 to 1999. As a four-time state qualifier while wrestling at Charles City High School, Drew compiled a 133-10 record, closing out his career winning 110 of his final 111 matches. While at Charles City High School, Drew was also a three-time all-state baseball player, a two-time all-state football player and a three-time state track meet qualifier.

After high school, he then went on to wrestle at the University of Northern Iowa. He was an assistant coach for two years in Fort Dodge, Iowa before beginning his current coaching job at Ames High School in 2008.

I know that my colleagues in the United States Congress join me in congratulating Coach Drew Kelly on his fine wrestling and coaching career, and on his induction into the IHSAA Wrestling Hall of Fame. It is an honor to represent Coach Kelly and his students in Congress, and I wish him the best as he continues to provide a positive impact as a role model and educator at Ames High School.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. STEVE KING

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 20, 2010

Mr. KING of Iowa. Madam Speaker, on roll-call No. 261, I was detained while attempting

to reach the House floor to cast my vote. Had I been present, I would have voted "yes."

IN HONOR OF EDNA MERLE
WILKINSON

HON. SAM FARR

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 20, 2010

Mr. FARR. Madam Speaker, on Wednesday my friends Patti and JOHN GARAMENDI experienced the loss of Patti's mother, Edna Merle Wilkinson, who passed away at the age of 92.

I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring Edna's rich life, which brought so much happiness to so many people.

Edna lived for many years in my district, graduating from high school in Watsonville. She married John Wilkinson, owner of Granite Construction Company, and helped build that small local company into one of the largest construction firms in the Nation.

Edna offers us many lessons on life, how to live happily and have a positive effect on others. I request that the following tribute to this great woman be included in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD.

Edna Merle Wilkinson passed away peacefully on May 19th, 2010, after nearly 92 long years of life. Merle was born May 26, 1918 in Marlow, Oklahoma to Mary Alma Wright Twyman and Harvey Hinton Twyman.

Merle was the 5th of their seven children. Her siblings included brothers Louie and Col. Richard Twyman, and sisters Miriam Lister, Evelyn Halward, Erlene Flores, and Alice Flounoy.

Merle lived and attended schools in Watsonville and Alturas, California where her accomplishments and actions are evidence of her compassionate and driven nature. In 1936 she graduated from Watsonville High School where she was awarded the American Legion Award for leadership, courage and academic excellence. She also was elected Student Body Secretary, served as the captain of the field hockey team and competed in ice skating events. After her graduation, Merle attended Business College and was a legal assistant to the Superior Court Judge in Salinas, CA.

Merle found her partner for life at a young age—on June 16, 1940 she married John "Jack" E. Wilkinson, the son of Walter J. Wilkinson, the founder of Granite Construction Company. Together they built the highway and road construction firm into what is today one of the half dozen largest in the country.

Merle and Jack were blessed with three daughters. Susan, Patti and Nancy were all born in Watsonville and attended the same high school their great grandmother Carrie Earle Wilkinson had graduated from in 1894.

Merle, a bright loving mother and wife, was also known for her community involvement. She was active in the Eastern Star and the Johnny Appleseed Auxiliary where she hosted fundraisers for local charities. Her deep involvement with the activities of her children blended with her community spirit and she often spent hours cooking for major events and volunteering in the schools.

From the kitchen to the football field and great outdoors, Merle was also an avid sports fan and athlete. She enjoyed fishing, camping, hiking and could often be found in the rooting section of Cal Berkeley football games when her son-in-law John Garamendi was playing.

After her husband passed away in October of 1969, Merle moved to Stockton to be closer to her daughters. Always one for adventure and challenges, she spent the next several years travelling the world. With a fearless spirit she rode horseback at the Treetops Lodge at Richard Holden's in Kenya, rode camels in Egypt and even elephants in India, keeping wonderful postcard journals for her grandchildren. She visited over 60 countries and was a true pioneer.

Merle's energy and heart of service has never wavered throughout her life. In Stockton she was one of the founders of the Lady Bugs Auxiliary; an organization that supports the developmentally disabled. Having lost her daughter, Nancy, to juvenile diabetes in 1995, she was supportive of the American Diabetes Association and could always be found taking casseroles to families of cancer patients.

While living in Stockton in the latter years of her life, Merle also became involved in local politics, making incredible lunches for volunteers and walking precincts with her grandchildren.

Merle's life is celebrated by her daughter, Patti, and her son-in-law, Congressman John Garamendi, who lovingly cared for her in their home over the past two-and-a-half years. Her 12 grandchildren and her 21 great-grandchildren also celebrate her life. Her work ethic, generosity, spirit of service and adventure, and love for family continues to serve as an inspiration to all who knew her.

The pioneering spirit that her family brought to America over 350 years ago lives on through her legacy.

Madam Speaker, on behalf of the House of Representatives, I would like to extend our sincere condolences to my friends Patti and JOHN GARAMENDI, both fellow Peace Corps volunteers, and our sincere thanks to Edna Merle Wilkinson for serving as such a great example to us all.

TRIBUTE TO COL MICHAEL R.
SHOULTS

HON. IKE SKELTON

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 20, 2010

Mr. SKELTON. Madam Speaker, it has come to my attention that Col Michael R. Shoultz will retire from the United States Air Force after 27 years of active duty service. He currently serves as the Chief of the Nuclear Plans, Policy, and Strategy Division of the Air Force.

A native of Bridgeton, Missouri, Col Shoultz earned his Bachelor's degree in Aircraft Maintenance Management from Parks College of St. Louis University. From there, he went on to receive degrees from the Squadron Officer School at Maxwell Air Force Base, Webster University, the Armed Forces Staff College, and the National Defense University, among others.

This extensive education did much to further Col Shoultz' long, diverse, and successful career. In the Air Force, he served as the Air Force operations readiness officer at U.S. Atlantic Command and the commander of the 28th Bomb Squadron and deputy commander for the 7th Operations Group at Dyess Air Force Base. Most recently he served as the vice commander of the 2nd Bomb Wing and the Chief of Staff of Air Combat Command's

8th Air Force. Additionally, as a command pilot he has logged over 3,800 hours in the B-52 and B-1 aircraft.

For his service, Col Shoultz received numerous awards and decorations including the Defense Superior Service Medal, the Legion of Merit, the Joint Service Commendation Medal, and the National Defense Service Medal.

Madam Speaker, let me take this means to extend my congratulations to Col Shoultz on his well-earned retirement and to wish him, his wife Elaine, and his two sons, Robert and Neil, the very best in the days ahead.

TRIBUTE TO THE LIFE AND LEGACY OF THE LATE TROOPER
PATRICK AMBROISE

HON. KENDRICK B. MEEK

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 20, 2010

Mr. MEEK of Florida. Madam Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to the life and legacy of the late Trooper Patrick Ambroise, a constituent in the 17th Congressional district I represent. It is with both profound sadness, but also an enduring sense of gratitude for the dedication he provided to Florida Highway Patrol Troop K.

A native Miamian, Trooper Ambroise graduated from Miami Edison Senior High School. He began his career with Florida Highway Patrol in January 2006. At the time of his death he lived in Miramar, Florida with his wife and two daughters, 5 years and 3 months old. Often noted as a dedicated and religious man, Trooper Ambroise was a tenor in a gospel group.

"I want his family to know that he really loved them," said Trooper Ambroise's partner, Trooper Shenaqua Stringer.

As a former Florida Highway Patrolman myself, it is quite clear that Trooper Ambroise demonstrated a passion for law enforcement and commitment to helping others, qualities that enabled him to become a respected and model member throughout Miami-Dade County. Florida Highway Patrol District Commander Captain Sammie Thomas said at a ceremony, "Any time we lose a member of this family, it quite naturally is going to affect us. We take these highways personal. We work every day and put our lives on the line to protect the public, and that's what Patrick did."

Madam Speaker, I ask that my distinguished colleagues join me in recognizing Trooper Patrick Ambroise's extraordinary life and many accomplishments. I appreciate this opportunity to pay tribute to him before the United States House of Representatives. Trooper Ambroise was an outstanding American worthy of our collective honor and appreciation. It is with deep respect and admiration that I commend him for his contributions to his community and the many lives that he touched while serving as a shining example of his legacy.

TRIBUTE TO MABLE VOSHELL

HON. TOM LATHAM

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 20, 2010

Mr. LATHAM. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Mable Voshell of Osage, Iowa